

SUBURBAN AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER

A Partnership between AgeOptions and
Progress Center for Independent Living

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Aging and Disability Collaboration

- AgeOptions and Progress Center for Independent Living have partnered to create organizational cultures and philosophies over the past fifteen years that respect and support each other.
- We are creating a solid process for system change and continued collaboration between aging and disability networks in suburban Cook County.



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Illinois Disability & Aging Facts

- People over 65 make up 37.3% of the population in Illinois. They account for:
 - 30% of all cases of visual impairment
 - 40% of people over 65 have hearing loss :
Only 6% feel that they have a hearing problem.
- In suburban Cook County disability prevalence in people over 65 accounts for 33.3% of the population
- Nearly 1 million people with intellectual and developmental disabilities live with a parent over 65.



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AgeOptions and Progress Center for Independent Living History

Late 1990's - AgeOptions begins relationship with Progress Center for Independent Living.

- Advocacy for Illinois Circuit Breaker program.
- Shared education on Medicare benefits for both aging and disability.
- Staff training on assistive technology



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AgeOptions and Progress Center for Independent Living History

- 2002 – Caregiver program begins to look at reaching out to diverse caregivers. AgeOptions works with Progress Center to look at resources for disabled caregivers.



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AgeOptions and Progress Center for Independent Living History

- 2003 - Development of the Make Medicare Work Coalition, a financial commitment and partnership with Progress Center for Independent Living. The Coalition is still in existence.

Advocacy for public information and service delivery to consumers regardless of age, income and disability.

- 2005 – Enhanced Transition/Community Reintegration Program – Home Again

Transitioning willing and able nursing home residents back into the community.



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AgeOptions and Progress Center for Independent Living History

- 2007 – Suburban Aging and Disability Resource Center Planning Grant

Modest grant to embark on development of a Virtual Aging and Disability Resource Center in suburban Cook County.

- 2008 – 2009 AgeOptions and Progress Center for Independent Living partner in bring Chronic Disease Self Management Program to persons with disabilities.



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The ADRC Planning Grant

- The planning grant has allowed us to continue our training, education, and partnership into both the aging and disability provider networks.
- Both networks have shared positive feedback on the project to us.



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Goals of the Suburban ADRC Planning Grant

- Training and Education
- Resource Inventory Sharing
- Regional Community Stakeholder Meetings
- Recommendations on future implementation of a Suburban ADRC



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Suburban ADRC Training Goal #1

Training and Education

- We have trained over 200 aging and disability staff members on the ADRC concept and resources available.
- The training sessions were rated as “highly useful” by 80% of the participants.



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Aging and Disability Resource Training

The training sessions included :

- Overview of the ADRC concept
- History of the Independent Living Movement and Philosophy
- Disability Resource and Awareness
- Disability Panel that included Progress Center staff representing a variety of disabilities. They shared their story.



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Suburban ADRC Goal # 2 Resource Inventory Sharing

- Resources have been identified and shared with AgeOptions, Progress Center for Independent Living, Case Coordination Units and Senior Health Assistance Programs.
- A reciprocal resource sharing process is being developed between AgeOptions and PCIL.



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Suburban ADRC Goal #3 Regional Stakeholder Meetings

Three meetings were held with goals of :

- Sharing of best practices
- Learn about areas of greatest concerns

50 community providers attended the meetings.



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Suburban ADRC Goal # 3 Regional Stakeholder Recommendations

- Providers expressed challenges in sharing resources across networks as well as across the different disability groups.
- Their vision for the Suburban ADRC varied from a web portal, an 800 phone number, a physical directory, an ongoing coalition between both networks



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Suburban ADRC Goal # 4 Recommendation Report

Report will include:

- Development of best practices to bringing together the aging and disability networks
- Identification of community resources and organizations that can partner in the project.
- Recommendations from the community on next steps.



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Suburban Aging and Disability Resource Center's future

- Our future goal to create a vehicle to further these efforts depending on the availability of funding.
- We will continue our work on collaborations between both the aging and disability networks. wherever opportunities arise.
- We will make sure the virtual concept is fully explored but the actual product will meet our communities needs.



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Positive Outcomes

Appreciation of the networks to learn how to work together to better serve their communities.

- Increased understanding by both networks
- Greater resources for staff
- Understanding of the shared territories
- Appreciation for the Independence movement and a common philosophy

Acceptance and support of a Suburban ADRC



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Thank You

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